



## Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 3 February 2009

Current Nationwide  
Threat Level is



[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)  
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

- According to First Coast News, a 10,000-gallon tank containing 1,500 gallons of ink-making resin exploded Friday at the US Ink building in Jacksonville, Florida, sending one person to the hospital. (See item [9](#))
- WISC 3 Madison reports that a bomb squad disarmed a pipe-like device found taped to the side of a fuel truck at the Middleton Airport in Dane County, Wisconsin on Sunday. Middleton police said a suspicious man was seen driving a pickup truck around the hangars and fuel pit. (See item [17](#))

### **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump**

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## **Energy Sector**

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: **Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *February 2, Reuters* – (International) **Kenya mourns over 144 dead in disasters.** In one of Kenya's worst accidents of recent times, at least 115 people died when a crowd scrabbling for free fuel crowded round a tanker that crashed near central Molo town on January 31. A cigarette set off the blaze, engulfing the crowd in flames, and also leaving nearly 200 people injured and 100 missing. "There was no response by any disaster team because there is no such team," said the prime minister of Kenya, visiting victims of the Molo blaze. Some witnesses said a man angered at being stopped by police from scooping petrol threw a cigarette butt on the ground deliberately. Police were demanding bribes, some said, though authorities have denied that.

Source:

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/UKNews1/idUKTRE50U27S20090202?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0>

2. *February 1, Reuters* – (Texas) **BP restarts Texas City refinery ultraformer.** BP Plc restarted Ultraformer No. 3 at its 467,720 barrel per day (bpd) Texas City, Texas, refinery on Sunday, according to a notice filed with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The unit was shut in early January to repair a leak. Those repairs were originally expected to take about a week, sources told Reuters at the time the unit was shut.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN0139174020090201>

3. *January 30, Reuters* – (Kansas; Oklahoma) **Osage pipeline at 80 pct for third day – spokesman.** The Osage oil pipeline ran at 80 percent capacity for a third day on January 30 after repairs to fix a leak that occurred last weekend, a spokesman said. The spokesman for Magellan Midstream Partners LP declined to say exactly how many barrels were flowing. The line's maximum capacity is 135,000 barrels per day. "The decision to return to normal operating pressure will be made by regulatory authorities," a Magellan spokesman said. He did not know when. The U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration is investigating the accident and consulting with the company, a spokeswoman said. An estimated 1,500 barrels of oil leaked north of the Oklahoma-Kansas state line Sunday. The failed section of pipe was removed and sent to a lab. Flow resumed Wednesday.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN3030260220090130>

4. *January 30, Associated Press* – (Alaska) **BP completes transit pipeline replacement.** BP Plc has quietly closed the books on one of the company's most costly moments as operator to the nation's largest oil field, Alaska's Prudhoe Bay. The company completed a new \$500 million, 16-mile transit pipeline and put it into service just before Christmas. It replaced a corroded line that, thanks to a long-standing pattern of cost-cutting and mismanagement, was the cause of a 200,000-gallon spill nearly three years ago.

Source:

[http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2008691033\\_apakalaskaoil.html](http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2008691033_apakalaskaoil.html)

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

5. *February 2, Associated Press* – (Indiana) **Chemical spill fouls St. Mary's river in Fort Wayne.** A wire factory spilled hundreds of gallons of hazardous chemicals into the St. Marys River in Fort Wayne, although officials are uncertain of what damage was caused because of ice on the river. A crew worked on January 30 with a chain saw to cut slabs of ice from the river then lift them by crane to large waste bins. The spill of an estimated 300 gallons from a rooftop tank at Essex Group was discovered on January 23. State environmental officials say the spill included phenol, petroleum distillates and cresylic acid. An Essex spokesman said an equipment malfunction caused the spill. He did not know how long the cleanup would take or its cost. The spill happened near the city's

Rivergreenway trail and just upstream from two local parks.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-in-chemicalspill,0,7404603.story>

6. *February 1, Houston Chronicle* – (Texas) **Shelter in place order lifted after spill is contained.** Houston firefighters have managed to control a hydrochloric acid spill at a southeast side chemical plant this morning that resulted in a temporary shelter-in-place order for the surrounding area. The leak came from a 10,000-gallon tank inside the business that was believed to have been about a quarter full when firefighters arrived. “We do not really know how it started,” the HFD district chief said. More than 100 firefighters and hazardous materials teams were at the scene. As police blocked off a 1/4-mile area around the building, the acid leak sent a vapor cloud billowing over the area. HFD officials did not know how long the tank had been leaking before they were notified. There were no employees working inside the plant at the time, officials said. HFD officials said some spillage from the acid leak made it into the sewer system — where it has been contained.  
Source: <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/headline/metro/6241125.html>
7. *January 30, Victoria Advocate* – (Texas) **Spill kills fish, prompts investigation.** Ineos Nitriles’ Green Lake facility, a producer of acetone cyanohydrin for plastic and resin products, leaked about two gallons of the substance into the Victoria Barge Canal, a spokesperson for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality said. At 9:30 p.m. on January 20, an Ineos night technician spotted inanimate fish at the company’s barge dock, a company news release said. An investigation found a small drip coming from a pipe moving the chemical into a temporary storage tank while the company conducted its routine tests of its pipe system. The Calhoun County plant immediately shut down operations and put out its spill boom, a plastic barrier used to keep a spill from spreading. Continual water testing in conjunction with the Coast Guard showed the water cleared in less than 12 hours. The amount of chemical released was less than 10 pounds, which would have required reporting to the TCEQ. But Parks and Wildlife’s Spills and Kills Team determined that between 2,000 and 5,000 fish died as a result of the incident, a regional biologist on the team, said. Mullet comprised 95 percent of the fish. Meanwhile, the dead fish are contained at an on-site landfill at the Ineos facility. Staff at the company plan to increase how often they inspect the pipes.  
Source: [http://www.victoriaadvocate.com/calhoun\\_county/story/404457.html](http://www.victoriaadvocate.com/calhoun_county/story/404457.html)
8. *January 30, Michigan Farm News* – (Michigan) **MDA urges compliance with bulk fertilizer containment.** Farmers who are in violation of state regulation 642 regarding bulk liquid fertilizer storage are under a period of grace, thanks to the weather and the new farm bill. Farmers are still urged to comply, and were required by law to comply with bulk liquid fertilizer storage regulations by last August 13, said a fertilizer and bulk storage manager with the Michigan Department of Agriculture. However, because many farms were waiting for cost-share money from the Natural Resource Conservation Service’s Environmental Quality Incentives Program to build containment facilities, they have been given a break. Fines for non-compliance, the manager said, are up to \$1,000 per violation, and there are three major violations of which farmers should be aware. First, is if there is no dike around the liquid fertilizer storage to contain a spill.

Second, farmers can be fined if they have no mixing and loading pad. Third, fines can be assessed for having no emergency response plan in place in case of a spill. Not all farmers need to build dikes around their tanks, however. Some can get into compliance simply by installing smaller tanks. “Even though the deadline is past, we encourage farmers to still make changes they need to make before a spill happens,” the manager said. “Remember that a containment structure more than pays for itself if there is an accident, or if a tank simply leaks. Even if there is a grace period, though, farmers are environmentally liable if there is an accident.”

Source:

<http://www.michiganfarmbureau.com/farmnews/transform.php?xml=20090130/fertilizer.xml>

9. *January 30, First Coast News* – (Florida) **Chemical explosion in NW Jacksonville hospitalizes one.** A tank containing ink-making resin exploded in Northwest Jacksonville, Florida on January 30, sending one person to the hospital. Jacksonville Fire and Rescue got several calls about an explosion at the US Ink building. A 10,000-gallon tank that contains a resin blew up. About 1,500 gallons of resin were in the tank at the time. One employee was taken to a hospital with minor injuries. Operations at the plant were shut down for about 2 hours, but are back to normal now. US Ink produces inks for the printing industry.

Source: <http://www.firstcoastnews.com/news/mostpopular/news-article.aspx?storyid=130155&provider=top>

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## **Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector**

10. *February 2, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **Aging NJ nuke plant has fire as license vote nears.** A weekend fire shut down the Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station in New Jersey. Authorities said the fire, which was in a separate building from the nuclear reactor, was not a threat to public safety and released no radiation. It left a thin film of oil on the plant grounds and in a canal, said a spokeswoman for the plant’s owner, Exelon Corp. The oil was being cleaned up Monday, she said. There was no immediate word of any impact on fish or other wildlife. The blaze broke out in an electrical transformer just before 10 p.m. Sunday and burned for about 15 minutes before being brought under control with the aid of outside fire companies. The cause was still being investigated Monday, and the plant remained shut down. The transformer damaged in the fire had just been installed in December, replacing an older unit that had failed.

Source: <http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2009/02/02/ap5996540.html>

11. *January 30, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission* – (Idaho) **NRC proposes \$13,000 fine for Sabia, INC.** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has proposed a fine of \$13,000 fine against SABIA, Inc. for violating NRC requirements in connection with an incident in which several workers were exposed to radioactive contamination at the company’s facility in Idaho Falls, Idaho. The company holds an NRC license authorizing it to manufacture, distribute, and service gauges containing sealed radioactive materials that are used by the coal mining and cement industry. On February

29, 2008 while disassembling a gauge, a worker inhaled radioactive materials and was contaminated on his hands, face, and clothing, three other workers received exposures, and the facility became extensively contaminated. Surveys of public areas outside the lab did not detect any radioactive contamination. Although the exposures were below federal regulatory limits and the workers should not suffer any long-term adverse health effects, the exposures were avoidable, the NRC determined. “In evaluating the significance of the violation, the NRC has concluded that although no actual exposures in excess of regulatory limits occurred, SABIA’s actions in leading up to the contamination event and its inadequate actions in responding to the event created a substantial potential for exposures or releases in excess of the applicable NRC regulatory limits,” the NRC Region IV administrator said in a letter to the company.

Source: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2009/09-001iv.html>

12. *January 29, WTVJ 6 Miami* – (Florida) **31 Cubans land near the Turkey Point nuclear power plant.** Thirty-one Cubans came ashore on the morning of January 28 near the Turkey Point nuclear power plant on Biscayne Bay, Florida. Twenty males, eight females, and three children landed on the southern most point of the nuclear facility. The Cubans waited on the bank of one of the cooling canals to be transported to the Pembroke Pines Border Patrol Station. There is no word on whether authorities were able to find the boat that transported the Cubans to the United States. Authorities are now looking into how the Cubans were able to get so close to the “secure” nuclear facility.

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/28910395/>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

13. *February 2, Marine Corps Times* – (National) **Marines to test, evaluate 4 auto-rifle models.** The Marine Corps is moving forward with plans to test replacements for the M249 Squad Automatic Weapon (SAW) and will receive initial deliveries this spring, Marine officials said. The Infantry Automatic Rifle (IAR) could be fielded as early as October 2010, said the weapon’s project officer at Marine Corps Systems Command in Quantico, Virginia. Testing is expected to begin in April on four finalists competing for the contract. The push to include Marines in the process has not stopped grumbling across the Corps. Many Corpsmen question the wisdom of reducing the number of SAW’s that allows Marines to unleash a tremendous volume of fire when threatened. The IAR will employ the same 5.56mm, 30-round magazine used with the Corps’ main service weapons, the M16A4 rifle and M4 carbine. “My big concern right now is that loss of fire,” said an infantry unit leader who deployed to Afghanistan twice and Iraq once, and is now a combat instructor. “We’re taught from day one that the SAW is the center of the squad itself. When you’re looking at dropping all those rounds, you’re going to lose your ability to maneuver and fire as quickly and efficiently as we have done in the past.”

Source: [http://www.marinecorpstimes.com/news/2009/02/marine\\_newsaw\\_020109w/](http://www.marinecorpstimes.com/news/2009/02/marine_newsaw_020109w/)

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

14. *February 2, New York Times* – (International) **No cash or credit card? Put it on your cell phone.** Imagine a technology that lets you pay for products just by waving your cell phone over a reader. The technology exists, and people in Japan have been using it for the past five years to pay for everything from train tickets to groceries to candy in vending machines. And in small-scale trials around the world, including in Atlanta, New York and the Bay Area, nearly everyone has liked using this form of payment. But consumers in the United States will not be able to wave and pay with their cell phones anytime soon: The myriad companies that must work together to give the technology to the masses have yet to agree on how to split the resulting revenue. “In Japan it was easier,” explains the director for corporate business development at Nokia. “It was just the major guys saying, ‘This is how it will be.’” A single carrier, NTT DoCoMo, accounted for more than half the Japanese market at the time the system was rolled out and thus had significant leverage with financial institutions and handset manufacturers. This is not the case in the United States. For such payments to work here, cell phone manufacturers, carriers, financial institutions and retailers must all play roles. There also must be some sort of intermediary that is trusted by both the financial institutions and the carriers to activate the virtual credit cards inside the phone. One problem is that anyone using a credit card inside a cell phone is simultaneously a customer of the financial institution and of the carrier. “At the end of the day, the question is, ‘Who pays whom and how much?’” the directory says. “The carriers and the banks need to get their act together on payment.” He adds that the back-and-forth is a necessary step in the creation of a complex system. Short-range technology, called NFC, for near field communication, enables a phone to talk to an electronic reader. It is already in widespread use — though, outside Japan, often not in phones.  
Source: [http://www.siliconvalley.com/personaltech/ci\\_11593235](http://www.siliconvalley.com/personaltech/ci_11593235)

15. *February 1, Des Moines Register* – (Iowa) **Police warn U.S. Cellular customers of text message fraud.** Police in Cedar Rapids, Des Moines and West Des Moines have received several reports this morning of fraudulent text messages being sent to U.S. Cellular customers from a company identifying itself as MetaBank. Police are advising anyone who has received these messages not to call the 1-800 number listed or give out any personal information. According to Cedar Rapids police, the text messages tell customers there has been a security breach on their account and to call a toll-free number that asks for a credit card number and personal information. U.S. Cellular is advising customers to instead call 6-1-1, the U.S. Cellular customer service line, and information will be passed on to the company’s fraud department.  
Source: <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20090201/NEWS/90201004/-1/NEWS04>

16. *January 31, Miami Herald* – (Florida; Maryland; Utah) **FDIC closes three banks.** Federal regulators have closed three banks in Utah, Florida and Maryland — bringing to six the total number of failures this year. The FDIC was appointed receiver of the following banks: MagnetBank of Salt Lake City, Florida’s Ocala National Bank, and Suburban Federal Savings Bank in Crofton, Maryland.



Source: <http://www.miamiherald.com/business/story/881324.html>

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## **Transportation Sector**

17. *February 2, WISC 3000 Madison* – (Wisconsin) **Suspicious pipe-like device found taped to airport fuel truck.** The Dane County Bomb Squad disarmed a suspicious device found taped to the side of a fuel truck at the Middleton Airport on February 1. Middleton police said a suspicious man was seen driving a black Ford F-150 pickup truck around the hangars and fuel pit at around 8 a.m. on February 1. The man left after being confronted by airport personnel, WISC-TV reported. Authorities said the same man was seen again in the area of the airport gate. They said at around 4:30 p.m., a suspicious, pipe-like device was observed affixed to the side of a fuel truck at the airport. The fuel truck was in close proximity to other fuel storage tanks. All flights were diverted from the airport, and the surrounding area was evacuated by Middleton police and fire departments. The Dane County Bomb Squad took the pipe-like device to an open field to render it safe, WISC-TV reported.

Source: <http://www.channel3000.com/news/18617508/detail.html>

18. *February 1, Atlanta Journal-Constitution* – (National) **Airlines expanding cell phone boarding passes.** More travelers are gaining a new weapon to help them avoid the long lines at the airport this spring and summer: their cell phones. Mobile ticketing, in which travelers receive a special bar code on their cell phones that acts as a boarding pass, is taking off both in Europe and the United States. Delta, Continental, and American Airlines all have rolled out and are expanding mobile ticketing programs. “We’re optimistic that we are, at most, weeks away from launching this in Atlanta,” a spokesman said. “It will also roll out soon in Salt Lake City and Orlando, with additional facilities coming online in the coming months.” Each paperless boarding pass displays an encrypted two-dimensional bar code along with passenger and flight information that will identify the traveler. Phones are then scanned by U.S. Transportation Security Administration workers at security as the passengers head for their gates.

Source:

[http://www.ajc.com/business/content/business/delta/stories/2009/02/01/cellphone\\_boarding\\_pass.html](http://www.ajc.com/business/content/business/delta/stories/2009/02/01/cellphone_boarding_pass.html)

19. *February 1, WPTV 5 West Palm Beach* – (Florida) **Suspicious package found at Port Everglades.** Port Everglades was closed to vessel traffic as investigators inspected a suspicious package at a terminal for nearly two hours on February 1. A K-9 unit detected something suspicious in luggage of a passenger who was boarding a ship around 4:30 p.m. The terminal had to be evacuated and vessels, including several cruise ships, were unable to dock. The package contained electronics that caused the dog to be alarmed.

Source: <http://www.wptv.com/news/local/story/Suspicious-package-found-at-Port-Everglades/fY3Xg0wpqkWF2QTKLjkdMA.csp>

20. *January 31, WJLA 7 Washington* – (West Virginia) **6 die in W. Virginia plane crash; pilot said fuel low.** All six people aboard a small plane were killed when it struck a power line and crashed shortly after its pilot warned on the radio that it was running low on fuel. Witnesses said the aircraft was flying low shortly before the January 30 afternoon crash, then the electricity went out. “The pilot issued a mayday,” a Federal Aviation Administration spokesman said. “The mayday was based on low fuel.” Officials initially said three people had died in the crash, but later revised the death toll to six. The Piper PA-34 crashed less than two miles from the Tri-State Airport near the Ohio and Kentucky state lines. Appalachian Power confirmed the plane hit a transmission line, but a spokesman said power to the area was only briefly affected. Source: <http://www.wjla.com/news/stories/0109/590615.html?ref=rs>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

21. *January 30, Montana News Station* – (Montana) **“Suspicious” substance causes scare at Malmstrom.** A suspicious envelope delivered to the medical facility on Malmstrom Air Force Base caused a security situation on January 28. The medical clinic was cordoned off and 15 people were quarantined when a clinic employee opened an envelope that contained a powdery substance. The commander of the 341st Missile Wing said, “The officer that opened up the envelope quickly responded, sealed off the area, immediately washed, alerted the community, and then procedures kicked in, which were pretty extensive.” The letter turned out to be legitimate and the substance was industrial chemical residue from where the letter was processed. The clinic is open today and back to business as usual. Source: [http://www.montanasnewsstation.com/Global/story.asp?S=9763763&nav=menu227\\_5](http://www.montanasnewsstation.com/Global/story.asp?S=9763763&nav=menu227_5)

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

22. *February 2, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Mushrooms recalled due to possible listeria contamination.** A southeastern Pennsylvania mushroom farm is recalling packages of enoki mushrooms because they may be contaminated with a bacteria that can cause a potentially fatal illness. Phillips Mushroom Farm of Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, said in a statement on February 1 the enoki mushrooms have been distributed in the United States and Canada through retail and food service channels. They were packaged under various brand names and sold between January 13 and 30. The recall covers 3.5-ounce, 4-ounce and 1-pound packages of the mushrooms. Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,486534,00.html>
23. *February 1, Associated Press* – (International) **Wild birds suspected in Fraser Valley avian flu.** Three of four of the latest avian flu outbreaks in Canada have been in the Fraser Valley, possibly because of the region’s popularity with migratory waterfowl, experts say. In the latest outbreak, that H5 strain of the virus was detected in some



turkeys on a property owned by two brothers in January and 60,000 turkeys were culled on an Abbotsford farm recently. Tests indicate the virus has not spread to any other poultry producers within a quarantine zone of about two miles, but the Washington Department of Agriculture increased tests for the virus at 13 farms in Whatcom County, a few miles to the south, as a precaution. The province's chief veterinary officer and a veterinary program specialist with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency suspect the culprits in British Columbia are mainly migratory birds. "We are on the Pacific flyway, so there are lots of birds passing through every year," the chief veterinary officer said, "and we know wild waterfowl carry a variety of different strains of avian influenza." The concentration of commercial poultry producers in the Fraser Valley is also a factor in the outbreaks, he added. Initial testing for avian viruses can now be done in Abbotsford, "so we have eliminated the delays in having to ship samples for testing at the federal lab," he added.

Source: <http://www.bellinghamherald.com/northwest/story/778529.html>

24. *January 30, USAgNet* – (International) **Unknown disease kills over 1,000 chickens in Nepal.** More than 1,000 local chickens have died from an unknown disease in a village in Sindhuli district in central Nepal, the National News Agency RSS reported on January 29. According to the RSS, the chickens died from the disease that has spread for the past few days. A villager said 75 local chickens died in her house alone. They died with swollen throats and an accumulation of water. The disease has not been identified. Earlier, Nepal started culling birds from January 16 in Kakarvittaof Jhapa District, which is a bird flu emergency area. It was the first time to detect the disease in Nepal.

Source: <http://www.usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=237&yr=2009>

25. *January 30, U.S. Food Safety and Inspection Service* – (Oklahoma) **Oklahoma firm recalls frozen chili beef products that may contain foreign materials.** Windsor Quality Food Co., Ltd., doing business as Windsor Foods, a Tulsa, Oklahoma, establishment, is recalling approximately 676,560 pounds of frozen chili beef products that may contain foreign materials from an ingredient source, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service announced. The products were produced on November 6, 2008, through January 13, 2009, and were distributed to food service and limited retail establishments nationwide. The problem was discovered after the company received 16 reports of consumer complaints about finding small pebbles or stones in the product and four reports of injury. FSIS has not received any reports of injury at this time.

Source: [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News\\_&\\_Events/Recall\\_003\\_2009\\_Release/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_003_2009_Release/index.asp)

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## **Water Sector**

26. *January 31, Coos Bay World* – (Oregon) **Major sewage spill taints bay, shellfish.** A sewage spill estimated at half a million gallons recently prompted closure of commercial shellfish harvesting in Coos Bay and South Slough, Oregon. But recreational clamming continued, and clam diggers apparently were not warned about the sewage. The spill was caused by a malfunction in two pumps at the Coos Bay sewage treatment plant in

Empire. It dumped an estimated 500,000 gallons of partially treated wastewater into the bay. The city notified state authorities who promptly closed oyster harvesting. An operator discovered wastewater in the plant's parking lot when he arrived for work at about 7 a.m. on January 27. The pumps in the intermediate lift station were not working, and pumping did not resume until 10:45 a.m. Several trucks with vacuum hoses were able to recapture about 130,000 gallons of liquid, said the project manager of CH2M HILL OMI, the city's treatment plant operator. The spilled wastewater went from the parking lot to an adjacent pond, and from there into a stream. It entered the bay about 3.8 miles upstream of the Coos Bay bar. He said the wastewater had been partially treated, though some solids remained in the water when it escaped the plant. He said he is not sure what caused the pump failure, though an inconsistent electrical supply could be to blame. As of January 30 afternoon, the lift station was operating on two pumps and a portable backup.

Source:

<http://www.theworldlink.com/articles/2009/01/31/news/doc498414afa68bb126430604.txt>

27. *January 30, Water Technology Online* – (Kentucky) **Storm shuts down 55 water plants in KY.** Communities in western Kentucky were left without drinking water after a winter storm paralyzed the area, according to a January 29 article in the News and Tribune. The governor of that state said on January 29 that there were 55 water treatment plants without power to treat and deliver potable water to 93,000 residents. The governor, who requested federal assistance, said some of the 50 large-scale generators delivered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) were to be used to bring water plants back on line. The state and FEMA were distributing potable water throughout storm-damaged areas that experienced a disruption to their water service, the article said.

Source: [http://watertechonline.com/news.asp?N\\_ID=71332](http://watertechonline.com/news.asp?N_ID=71332)

28. *January 30, Water Technology Online* – (Missouri; Nebraska) **Portions of Missouri River are sinking.** The Missouri River is sinking, and water utilities have been hit the hardest, according to a January 28 Associated Press report on hdnews.net. Portions of the river, from southeast Nebraska to the eastern Missouri community of Hermann near St. Louis, are losing elevation as the river bottom erodes. This is causing big problems for utilities that rely on the river to supply drinking water. Scientists are focused on Kansas City because of the potential impact there. According to the report, "For Kansas City, at ground zero, it is meant \$4 million and counting to improve the river intake used by the Water Services Department for drinking water." As the river erodes, other potential problems arise, including threats to the stability of bridges and levees. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is completing an initial study of the degradation. While there does not seem to be a clear reason for the degradation, some theories include impacts from dredging, upstream dams that reduce the amount of sediment flowing downstream, and other processes.

Source: [http://watertechonline.com/news.asp?N\\_ID=71336](http://watertechonline.com/news.asp?N_ID=71336)

29. *January 30, Water Technology Online* – (New York) **Some light shed on NYC's new**

**UV plant.** A look at drinking water treatment technologies in a January 28 Scientific American article reports on New York City's water disinfection facility, which is being built north of Manhattan in Westchester County and will include an ultraviolet (UV) light disinfection system. Technology at the new plant will allow the city to reduce the amount of chlorine it uses to disinfect the drinking water supply it draws from Delaware County and Catskill watersheds. According to the article, the new plant will consist of 56 40-million-gallon UV disinfection units with the capacity to disinfect up to 2.4 billion gallons of water per day. During the disinfection process, water will pass through the 56 UV units, each of which contains 144 low-pressure, high-output ultraviolet lamps that produce 40 millijoules per square centimeter of light that together can treat an average of 1.3 billion gallons of water daily. The city's specifications call for the facility to use no more than 6.3 megawatts of power when the water is at the maximum flow of 2.4 billion gallons per day.

Source: [http://watertechnonline.com/news.asp?N\\_ID=71334](http://watertechnonline.com/news.asp?N_ID=71334)

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

30. *February 2, Xinhua* – (International) **Central China woman confirmed with bird flu.**

A 21-year-old woman was confirmed infected with bird flu in central China's Hunan Province, the provincial health bureau said Saturday. The woman fell ill on January 23 in Xupu County, and was hospitalized at the county's People's Hospital on January 26. The woman, who tested positive for the H5N1 strain of bird flu, was transferred to a hospital in Changsha, the provincial capital. The health ministry said it had reported the case to the World Health Organization and informed health authorities of China's Hong Kong and Macao special administrative regions. China has reported five deaths from bird flu this year.

Source: [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-02/02/content\\_10752715.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-02/02/content_10752715.htm)

31. *February 2, Associated Press* – (New Hampshire) **NH DHHS warns of potential scam.**

The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services is warning recipients of state aid of a potential scam targeting their benefits. The warning goes out after officials in Wisconsin were made aware of an alleged scam in their state. Officials say residents in Wisconsin received calls requesting the card number and PIN to access their cash and food stamp benefits. Authorities believe the callers were posing as state employees. A DHHS Commission official says they have not had any similar cases reported in New Hampshire but are advising aid recipients not to give out information about their Electronic Benefits Transfer, or EBT, card over the phone.

Source: <http://www.seacoastonline.com/articles/20090202-NEWS-90202016>

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

32. *January 31, Fosters Daily Democrat* – (New Hampshire) **Bomb threat at UNH triggers campus search.** University of New Hampshire police spent January 30

investigating a bomb threat that was called in to a university operator but later found no threat to the campus. A UNH Spokesperson said the threat was called in to the university operator at 10:35 a.m. and was not specific to any location or time. “The threat was that there were numerous bombs across campus,” said the UNH deputy police chief. “The caller appeared to be a male who sounded like he was reading from a script.” UNH police along with the New Hampshire State Police bomb squad spent the day searching high-density areas, such as the student union and the Dimond Library. Staff in the grounds department conducted a surveillance of the exterior areas. The housekeeping staff conducted a surveillance of building interiors. The campus remained open during searches. No suspicious package or activity was reported and an “all clear” alert was issued campus wide shortly after 4 p.m.

Source:

[http://www.fosters.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090131/GJNEWS\\_01/701319962/-1/FOSNEWS](http://www.fosters.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090131/GJNEWS_01/701319962/-1/FOSNEWS)

33. *January 30, CNET News* – (National) **Report: Justice Department sends hoax e-mail to test workers.** A U.S. Department of Justice e-mail that phished for sensitive information from federal workers was a hoax that the agency sent out to test its own security awareness, according to a report. The e-mail, sent two weeks ago to Justice Department employees, directed recipients to a Web site that prompted them to supply account information related to the federal retirement savings program, the Associated Press reported. “We have learned that the messages are part of a hoax invented and distributed by DOJ to test employee security awareness,” said the assistant director for information systems security, wrote in an e-mail to the Associated Press on January 28. A Justice Department spokeswoman confirmed that the e-mail was a security test. “Scenarios are intended to represent an example of persistent cyber threats facing today’s Internet users,” she told the news service. The spokeswoman did not immediately return a call seeking comment on January 30.

Source: [http://news.cnet.com/8301-1009\\_3-10153795-83.html?part=rss&tag=feed&subj=News-Security](http://news.cnet.com/8301-1009_3-10153795-83.html?part=rss&tag=feed&subj=News-Security)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

34. *February 1, Washington Post* – (District of Columbia) **Cruise craft strikes docked city fireboat.** The Spirit of Washington cruise boat struck the District’s main fireboat on January 31 while the latter vessel was docked, gashing a 15-foot-hole in the fireboat and disabling it for the foreseeable future, fire officials said. No one was injured in the incident, authorities said. The accident occurred as the four-person crew of the Spirit of Washington performed a routine maneuver to reposition the ship alongside the pier, said the vice president and general manager of Spirit Cruises. “They were just turning it around,” he said. “It’s done a thousand times a year.” A spokesman for the D.C. Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department said the damage to the 70-foot John Glenn was “considerable.” The gash was on the starboard side, above the water line, and will have to be fixed before the fireboat can be returned to service, he said. He described

the vessel as “a very necessary part of the department.” The John Glenn can pump 7,000 gallons of water a minute and is the city’s only vessel with icebreaking capabilities, he said. It was instrumental in battling a blaze three years ago on the water in which three yachts caught fire. All sources agreed it was too early to determine what had gone wrong, although both said there had been reports of strong gusts of wind on the river.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/01/31/AR2009013101485.html>

35. *February 1, Associated Press* – (National) **Fake 911 calls difficult to prevent.** The Associated Press reports on a new trend in telephone fraud that exploits a weakness in the way the 911 system handles calls from Internet-based phone services. The attacks — called “swatting” because armed police SWAT teams usually respond — are virtually unstoppable, and an Associated Press investigation found that budget-strapped 911 centers are essentially defenseless without an overhaul of their computer systems. In a recent case, an 18-year-old from Mukilteo, Washington used an Internet-based phone service for the hearing-impaired to convince a SWAT team in southern California to descend on the home of a random family. By entering bogus information about his location, the teenager was able to make it seem to the 911 operator as if he was calling from inside the family’s home. He told police that he was high on drugs and had just shot his sister. According to prosecutors, the teenager picked the family at random, as he did with all of the 185 calls investigators say he made to 911 operators around the country. Unlike calls that come from landline phones, which are registered to a fixed physical address and display that on 911 dispatchers’ screens, calls coming from people’s computers, or even calls from landline or cell phones that are routed through spoofing services, could appear to be originating from anywhere. Scores of Caller ID spoofing services have sprung up, offering to disguise callers’ origins for a fee. All anybody needs to do is pony up for a certain number of minutes, punch in a PIN code and specify whom they are calling and what they would like the Caller ID to display. Source: [http://tech.yahoo.com/news/ap/20090201/ap\\_on\\_hi\\_te/tec911\\_swatting](http://tech.yahoo.com/news/ap/20090201/ap_on_hi_te/tec911_swatting)

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## **Information Technology**

36. *February 1, Earth Times* – (International) **Conficker worm spreading rapidly.** The latest major threat to computing safety, the Conficker worm, is spreading rapidly throughout the Internet. The worm represents less of a risk to home PCs than networked computers at corporations and institutions, but that does not mean that stand-alone computers are immune to the threat, says a representative of the German Federal Agency for Security in Information Technology (BSI) in Bonn. The first crucial step for all users is to install the Microsoft patch (MS08-067) designed to close the security gap in Windows. A virus scanner with current virus definitions is also a must for identifying and removing the ill-intentioned program. Computers infected with the bug are forced to download and install additional malware. The worm, which is also known as Downadup and Kido, then attempts to crack weaker passwords. This worm has proven particularly difficult to stamp out because many users have failed to install the necessary patch, even though it has been available since October 2008. Conficker also has the ability to

replicate itself onto USB sticks and hard drives. “For your home PC, you should have an antivirus program scan the USB stick before opening any files,” the expert recommends. It is also a good idea to deactivate the autostart function on USB storage media and to switch to robust passwords, if the user has not already done so. Antivirus software makers say an estimated 9 million computers are infected with Conficker worldwide. The majority of those are corporate and government networks. Interestingly, the worm does not like competition. As soon as it has successfully installed itself onto a machine, it then downloads the Microsoft patch on its own to prevent other malicious software from exploiting the same gap.

Source: <http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/253644,conficker-worm-spreading-rapidly.html>

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Website: <http://www.us-cert.gov>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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## Communications Sector

Nothing to report

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## Commercial Facilities Sector

37. *February 2, Associated Press* – (Iowa) **Five children hospitalized by carbon monoxide.** Officials say a faulty furnace at a hotel in Fort Dodge put five children in the hospital with carbon monoxide poisoning. The children were in the swimming pool at the Travel Inn on January 31 when they began to feel lethargic and dizzy. A call reporting an unresponsive child was made at about 6:30 p.m. A strong odor throughout the building led authorities to believe the culprit was chlorine poisoning. But the assistant Fort Dodge Fire captain said tests discovered levels of carbon monoxide more than 14 times the safe level. The children were taken to the hospital where excessive levels of carbon monoxide were found in their blood.

Source: <http://www.kcrg.com/news/local/38800482.html>

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## National Monuments & Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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## **Dams Sector**

38. *February 2, New Orleans Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **East Jefferson lakefront levee will get higher, wider.** Work began this week to widen and raise a stretch of the lakefront hurricane-protection levee, marking the first 100-year project in East Jefferson, officials said. The work will add 1 to 1 1/2 feet of height to bring the Reach 5 levee to 16 1/2 feet. It also will widen the levee crown from 7 to 10 feet to better accommodate emergency vehicles. When combined with other planned improvements — including construction of a new breakwater and floodwall tie-ins for the Bonnabel Pump Station and new floodwalls and a floodgate for Bonnabel Boulevard — the improved levee should provide Reach 5 with protection from a 100-year storm, an event that has a 1 percent chance of occurring in any year. Corps representatives said this week they are finalizing plans for 100-year flood protection to Reaches 1-4, all of which are sandwiched between Lake Pontchartrain and high-density neighborhoods and built on less stable ground than Reach 5 in eastern Metairie and Bucktown.

Source:

[http://www.nola.com/news/index.ssf/2009/02/east\\_jefferson\\_lakefront\\_levee.html](http://www.nola.com/news/index.ssf/2009/02/east_jefferson_lakefront_levee.html)

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## **Contact DHS**

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at [nicc@dhs.gov](mailto:nicc@dhs.gov) or (202) 282-9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

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